

Community and Economic Development Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Applications Now Available for City Economic Development and Tourism Support Grant Funding

Applications Due by January 30, 2006

SAN DIEGO, CA - Nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations that attract businesses, increase employment opportunities, or promote the City of San Diego as a tourism destination can now apply for funding from a special City of San Diego program for the 2007 fiscal year.

The City's Economic Development and Tourism Support Program (EDTS) provides Transient Occupancy Tax funds to nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations that produce regionally significant services, programs and events that improve the San Diego economy by boosting tourism, attracting new businesses, and increasing jobs in the area. Last fiscal year, the City provided nearly \$540,000 in grant funds to various nonprofits. Fiscal Year 2007 funds for this program are contingent upon the City budget, which will be adopted by June 30, 2006.

Organizations interested in applying for funding should contact the City's Community and Economic Development Department at (619) 533-4246 to request an application and program guidelines. To simplify the application process, the <u>application form and guidelines</u> are also available on the City's web site. Program applications must be postmarked by the deadline date of Monday, January 30, 2006 or hand-delivered by 5 p.m. to: City of San Diego Community and Economic Development Department, 600 B Street, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92101. Late applications will not be accepted.

All qualifying applications will be reviewed by a panel composed of board members of the City's Small Business Advisory Board as well as representatives from the tourism industry and business community. To submit a qualifying application, organizations must meet the following eligibility requirements:

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- **Nonprofit status:** Organizations must be able to demonstrate proof of nonprofit tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, or Section 23701d of the California Revenue and Taxation by the application deadline date and a Certificate of Good Standing.
- Track record: Organizations must have engaged in continuous economic, employment or tourism development programming for three (3) years prior to the application deadline within San Diego.
- Location: Activities of the applicant organization must take place within the City of San Diego and provide direct benefits to City of San Diego residents and visitors. Activities must also demonstrate a direct economic and tourist impact.
- **Schools:** Universities, community colleges, school districts, foundations and private educational enterprises are <u>not</u> eligible to apply.
- **Note:** Organizations requesting EDTS funding may submit only one application under these guidelines and may not apply or receive funding in other City TOT allocations programs, such as those administered by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture or the Financial Management department.

For more information about the Economic Development and Tourism Support Program, contact the City of San Diego's Community and Economic Development Department at (619) 533-4246 or visit the City's web site at www.sandiego.gov/ced.

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With an emphasis on the City's urban core neighborhoods and low and moderate income residents, the Community and Economic Development Department strives to improve the quality of life and ensure a healthy economy in San Diego through job development, business development, neighborhood revitalization, public improvements, redevelopment, social services, and revenue enhancement.